

Don Lowe
First Selectman

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**TOWN OF SHERMAN CONNECTICUT
MALLORY TOWN HALL**

February 27, 2023

RE: Proposed House Bill 06633/OPPOSED!

Dear Housing Committee,

Please kill this bill. Sherman and other small Connecticut municipalities make up the fabric of this terrific state. All of the leaders of these Towns and their land use boards care deeply about housing issues and deal with them on our own terms. This especially concerns affordable housing and senior housing.

Let me cut to the heart of this: The idea that the bill's creator(s) thinks the state understands our housing issues better than town leaders, and to threaten us with lawsuits if we don't follow housing mandates prescribed by an outside entity, absolutely sickens me. This will clog our court systems with lawsuits as Towns would certainly fight back with any legal tools available. This accomplishes nothing.

Each town has its own particular and unique housing situation. Some towns don't have the sewage and water systems to support large cluster developments. Others have a significant stock of affordable housing, but the units are not counted in the affordable housing calculation. In addition, the term "affordable", while there is a necessity for the state to define it, is a different threshold in every town.

I could go on. And on. But I really want to simply make clear my complete opposition to this bill. Please do not advance it.

Sincerely,

Don
First Selectman of Sherman, CT